

Frequently Asked Questions CTE Equipment Funding

The FY18 budget proposed by Governor Haslam, and approved by the General Assembly, provides \$15 million to help schools acquire equipment for their CTE programs. The department will award non-competitive grants to districts with priority given to applications focused on Tennessee's fastest growing career sectors—advanced manufacturing, health science, and information technology—so that students have up-to-date equipment that mirrors equipment found in business and industry.

All eligible applicants who wish to apply for funding must submit a [Notice of Intent to Apply](#) by **June 12 at 5 p.m. CDT**. The application for CTE equipment funding will **open on June 16 and close on July 7**. *Grant Decision Letters* will be sent to applicants notifying them of their approved funding no later than **July 21** to allow LEAs to begin purchasing their equipment. For more information, click [here](#) or contact Heather.Justice@tn.gov.

1. *Can individual schools apply to receive funding for CTE equipment?*

No. Applications must be submitted by the district but may include individual school funding request within the application.

2. *Can a district only apply for funding within Advanced Manufacturing, Health Science, and Information Technology?*

Yes. These three areas are Tennessee's fastest growing career sectors. Districts are awarded funds to ensure students are working with up-to-date equipment that mirrors equipment found in business and industry.

3. *Can a district only apply for funding within one of the three areas (Advanced Manufacturing, Health Science, and Information Technology), or can they apply for equipment in all three areas?*

Districts can apply for funding in all three areas as long as they currently offer or are planning to offer a program of study within the career cluster in the 2017-18 school year.

4. *What if a district does not currently offer a program of study in Advanced Manufacturing, Health Science, and Information Technology, but plans to offer one in 2017-18?*

We recognize that the availability of CTE equipment funding may allow for districts to offer programs of study in 2017-18 which they were not previously able to offer due to the high cost of equipment. Therefore, if a district did not select a program of study within one of these three career clusters during the open enrollment period, but plans to offer the program of study in 2017-18, the district will need to include an official letter, on district letterhead and signed by the director of schools, with their application stating the career cluster and specific program of study that the district plans to offer. Please send all letters to Heather.Justice@tn.gov by the **July 7** application deadline. Programs of study must be offered in the 2017-18 school year.

5. *The notice of intent says that funding requests over \$125,000 may not be able to be awarded. What does that mean?*

As a non-competitive grant, \$125,000 is the maximum amount available to be awarded if every district were to apply for the grant funding. We recognize that not every district will apply and some districts may not need \$125,000 worth of equipment, therefore we encourage districts to apply for the amount of equipment they need. Awarded amounts may exceed \$125,000 if funds are available.

6. *If a district has a special program of study in Advanced Manufacturing, Information Technology, or Health Science, can they apply for funds for these programs?*

Yes, as long as the special program of study is already approved for the 2017-18 school year.